

# Convention To Hear Explanations

DALLAS (BP)—Although the annual Southern Baptist Convention meeting here, June 11-13, is expected to experience no major eruptions, messengers to the sessions can look forward to some lively discussion on an issue or two.

Among motions confronting the convention will probably be one by Frank Minton, a Dayton, Ohio, pastor, asking the Home Mission Board's division of evangelism be converted into a separate agency, a Commission on Evangelism.

Arthur Rutledge, the Home Mission Board's executive director, has responded that the board is in fact a board of missions and evangelism and that a change of name to National Missions and Evangelism Board would achieve Minton's purpose of giving evangelism greater exposure in the denomination.

Rutledge says he does not oppose a review of the matter but points to a conclusion in the recently completed study of the convention by the "Committee of 15" that evangelism development can best be implemented in its present setting with the Home Mission Board.

Minton says his proposal has grass roots support and would be the best approach to increasing evangelism's exposure.

Under convention bylaws a decision to establish a new agency must be approved by a majority of vote of messengers at two successive conventions.

Another focal point of interest is expected to be a series of recommendations the SBC's Christian Life Com-

mission will bring on women's rights, race relations, integrity in government and economic life.

The Christian Life Commission's recommendations will call for specific actions from messengers, rather than resolutions or a report to be received.

Part of the recommendation on women calls for the convention to amend its Bylaw 7 to "move toward more equitable representation" by stipulating that women make up one-

half of the total elected members of SBC boards, agencies and committees by no later than 1980.

Bylaw 7, in fact, will be under scrutiny from more than one direction. The SBC's Executive Committee will also recommend its amendment to "provide a more precise definition of the 'ordained' and 'layman' provision."

Presently, the bylaw states that "all

convention committees, boards and

commissions shall include both ordained and lay persons as members."

The proposed amendment would alter "ordained" to read "pastors or other full-time church or denominational employees" and "lay persons" to read "those who are pastors or full-time church or denominational employees."

Purpose of the recommendation,

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First Baptist Church Dallas, has the largest membership of the 34,663 churches affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention. Baptists in Dallas will host the 1974 meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention which will meet in the Dallas Convention Center, June 11-13. (BP Photo)

## Study Reveals Religious Trends In U. S.

NEW YORK (RNS) — The publication of a major ecumenical study of Christian church membership in the U. S. by region, state and county — the first such study in 18 years — was announced here (May 9) and offered as a "contribution to the study of long-range religious trends in America."

Documenting the fact that about half the U. S. population is "unchurched," at least from a Christian standpoint, the two-year study pinpoints where in the country the Christian religions are flourishing, holding their own, slowly declining or having little or no impact on the local populace.

The computerized 237-page report,

entitled "A Study of Churches and Church Membership in the U. S. — 1971," encompasses 80.8% of Christian church members in 50 states, just over 100 million persons. It includes a color fold-out map which delineates an almost complete Christian

geography of the nation.

The study was published by the Glenmary Research Center, Washington, D. C., a Roman Catholic agency, and was compiled by Douglas W. Johnson, staff associate at the Na-

(Continued On Page 2)

## U. S. Baptists Still Plan June 1 As Day Of Prayer

WASHINGTON (BP)—Observance of April 30 as a national day of prayer will not affect the North American Baptist Fellowship's designation of June 1 for "thanksgiving, penitence and prayer."

Newspapers estimated that thousands of churches throughout the United States observed the April 30 date proposed in a Senate resolution introduced by Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon.

"One emphasis does not displace the other," said Sloan S. Hodges, chairman of the North American Baptist Fellowship (NABF). "In fact," he said, "the Bible says he ought always to pray."

The June 1 date was chosen by the NABF, a committee of the Baptist World Alliance, because it is the 200th anniversary of a prayer meeting held by members of the Virginia House of Burgesses, a significant event in the prelude to American independence.

Carl W. Tiller, secretary of the NABF, observed that some "have raised questions about the idea of a day of prayer following so closely upon the highly publicized April 30 observance." He went on to say:

"Although churches in many places observed a day of prayer on April 30, thinking it was to be a national observance, they were misled about the government's role. Congress never passed a resolution on the April 30 date; the Senate did, but it was pigeon holed by the House of Representatives."

"On the other hand, some of our people hold fast to the view that religious observances are properly decided by religious bodies, not by the government. Whether or not our churches held an observance on April 30, we hope that they will join in this religiously motivated call for prayer on June 1."

Seven major Baptist bodies in the United States are included in the U.S. section of the NABF which issued the June 1 call to prayer. They are American Baptist Churches in the USA, General Association of General Baptists, National Baptist Convention of America, North American Baptist General Conference, Progressive National Baptist Convention, Seventh Day Baptist General Conference and the Southern Baptist Convention.

The seven U. S. bodies comprise about 18 million of 29 million Baptists in the United States. Hodges said he hoped that all Baptists in the nation, whether or not they are in NABF, will join in the day of prayer.

## 37 Student Missionaries Named For Summer

Thirty-seven students from eleven colleges are being sent by the Baptist Student Unions of Mississippi this summer to serve as summer missionaries in six foreign countries and sixteen states in the U. S.

The place of service, name, home town and school, of each missionary, in that order, follows:

Gaza, Ed Austin, Bowling Green,

Ky., MSU; Ghana, Marilyn Clark, Natchez, MC; Guam, Mary Lee Jones, Clarksdale, MC; Israel, Rhona Cartwright, Memphis, MUW; Israel, Roger Jecko, Sosso, MSU; Trinidad, Clay Moore, Sardis, Ole Miss.; Alaska, Bonnie Stuart, Pelahatchie, USM; Alaska, Patty Comer, Fulton, Itawamba; Arizona, Jesse Petty, Ram-

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Canterbury, MC Indiana

Oz, LSC California

Dale, MSU New York

Sumrall, MSU South Carolina

Whitton, NE Ohio

Iacob, MBD Israel

Davidson, MC New England

Morgan, MDJC Virginia

West, USM Nevada

Pritchard, MDJC N.Y.

Howell, WOU Michigan

Calder, MC Missouri

Pope, MC New York

Tappan, MC Hawaii

Neal, MBDC Michigan

Stuart, USM Alaska

Osborne, USM Arizona

Triplett, MSU New Mexico

Dawkins, MC Canada

Gillis, DSU New Mexico

Petty, NE Arizona

Parks, MC New Mexico

Wilson, MC California

Clark, MC Ghana

Cumberland, ECJC-N.M.

Jones, MC Guam

Cartright, MUW-Israel

Donald, MC Colorado

Neal, MBDC Michigan

Stuart, USM Alaska

Osborne, USM Arizona

Triplett, MSU New Mexico

Dawkins, MC Canada

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Gillis, DSU New Mexico

Petty, NE Arizona

Parks, MC New Mexico

# The Development Of Exorcism In The Patristic And Roman Catholic Church

By John P. Newport, Professor,  
Ph.D. of Religion,  
Southwestern Seminary  
(Third in A Series of Four)

In order to understand contemporary developments, it is important to see the evolution of exorcism and its various rites and practices.

Exorcism grew out of New Testament accounts of statements of Jesus, "In My name shall they cast out devils" (Luke 9:1, 10:17).

From 100 until 250 A.D. both lay Christians and members of the clergy practiced exorcism.

Justin Martyr describes this practice in the second century in his *Apologetics*: "For many of our Christian men exorcized numberless demons throughout the whole world and in the city of Rome in the name of Jesus Christ."

The practice seemed to have been rather simple with merely a litany, prayers, and laying on of hands.

About 250 A.D. Eusebius states that the office of exorcism was the third of four minor orders in the church.

One function of the exorcist related to development of infant baptism and the developing dogma of original sin.

Exorcism removed the impediment to grace resulting from effects or original sin. Furthermore, the whole

world was seen as being under the power of the devil.

Givry suggests that in those early centuries it was taught that a child entered the world under auspices of a demon. A voluntary renunciation of the devil was required of a candidate for baptism.

When infants were baptized, renunciation was undertaken by sponsors on their behalf. The pre-baptismal exorcism ceremony included a command "Come out of him, thou unclean spirit!"

Books are available giving exorcism sentences used by such notables as Ambrose and Cyprian.

Hippolytus gives examples of certain older people who were conspicuously unclean and needed special exorcism before baptism.

These included prostitutes, perverts, eunuchs, magicians and diviners. The bishop himself performed exorcisms for them.

Waterless places are spoken of in the gospel of Matthew (12:43) as an unsatisfactory abode for demons when they have been driven out of a man.

It was generally thought that water was the demon's element. Consequently the Christian church began quite early — about 150 A.D. — to have a blessing or exorcism of the water that was to be used for baptism.

Neoplatonist philosophy influenced Greek theologians to teach that demons inhabited spiritual bodies made of air.

This is perhaps related to the practice of opening the ears with the command "Effeta" (be opened) during an exorcism.

The idea of a demon having an air body also throws light on certain witchcraft practices.

A suspected witch was oftentimes thrown into deep water. If she floated, a demon in the form of air was proved to be still in her. If she sank, she was free of demons. In either case, the result was hopeless.

Athanasius tells of demons physically assaulting St. Anthony with lashes and in the form of beasts and reptiles.

It was this sort of tradition that was to keep alive notions of possession that survived up to the present time.

By the 13th century, the theory that angels have no body had largely won the theological field. This was primarily accomplished by Thomas Aquinas.

According to Aquinas, demons were pure spirits and had intellects superior to man's, even though they had fallen from grace.

They could not, however, do anything against man without permission of God, and God never allows temptation to exceed a person's powers of resistance.

Thomas Aquinas followed Augustine in teaching that demons manipulate internal body fluids in order to activate sense appetites.

Besides tampering with imagina-

tion, demons can also interfere with external sensations by their movement of body fluids and can arouse emotions to anger, lust or other vicious passions.

For Aquinas, possession implies a more continuous demonic presence than temptation. The devil can actually inhabit the body.

At the height of witchcraft trials, numerous anthologies of rites for exorcisms were published.

In 1627, a 1232-page *Thesaurus of Exorcism* was published. This *Thesaurus* included exorcisms for nearly all possible eventualities: an exorcism against a demon vexing a house, exorcisms against the drying up of cows, noxious pests (such as caterpillars and locusts), various sicknesses (including "stomachaches and belly pains").

There were even exorcisms for worn-out husbands reduced to regrettable impotence by the malice of Satan.

Devotional usages such as the sign of the cross, holy water, rosaries and St. Benedict badges were developed as everyday exorcisms for repelling demons.

Oftentimes the sign of the cross was made over the mouth in yawning so that no evil spirit would dare enter.

In Europe, demon possession took the form of major group epidemics.

One hysterical nun would rapidly infect the whole nunnery.

The most famous of all cases of pos-

sessions, the epidemic in 1634 in London, France, was made famous by Aldous Huxley.

The Mother Superior displayed classic symptoms of possession. Father Urbain Grandier, foe of Cardinal Richelieu, was accused of bewitching nuns and burned. Hysteria continued after his execution and spread to other convents.

A well-known case of individual pos-

session occurred in Vienna in 1583. A

16-year-old girl suffering from cramps

was considered as a demoniac.

After eight weeks of exorcism, Jes-

uits expelled 12,632 living demons,

which her grandmother kept in t

the form of flies in glass jars!

The Roman Catholic Church took

rather decisive steps to control exor-

cism in 1614.

In the *Roman Ritual*, issued in 1614

under Paul V, the following rules for

exorcism appear:

"First of all, he

should not easily believe that anyone

is possessed by a demon, but let him

know the signs whereby a possessed

person can be distinguished from

those who suffer from black bile

(melancholy or some disease). Now

the signs of a possessing demon are:

the speaking of many words or the

understanding of a speaker in an un-

known tongue; the revealing of distant

and occult things; the manifesta-

tion of powers beyond the nature of one's

age or condition; and other things of

this sort, which when several occur

together are all the more decisive in-

dications."

This precaution greatly diminished

the practice of exorcism.

It was not until 1917 that exorcism

was restricted to priests who had

gained episcopal permission.

The movie "The Exorcist" has

heightened the controversy about ex-

orcism in the Roman Catholic Church.

Some scholars such as Sudbrack

suggest that demon possession

can best be interpreted in terms of a primitive

mind-set. The eminent theolo-

gan, Karl Rahner, holds out for genu-

ine possession in rare cases.

He agrees that it is difficult to dis-

tinguish between mental illness, para-

psychological faculties and demon

possession. In some cases both psy-

chological help and exorcism should

be utilized.

Rahner is opposed, however, to ex-

orcism as a theatrical ritual in which

demons as well as God are addressed.

Rahner apparently accepts the idea

that ceremonial exorcism can act ef-

fectively on a sick man's sub-

consciousness.

Debate continues on dangers of

premature exorcism. Sudbrack sug-

gests that the practice of exorcism

has in the past caused many medical

precautions and treatments to be neg-

lected.

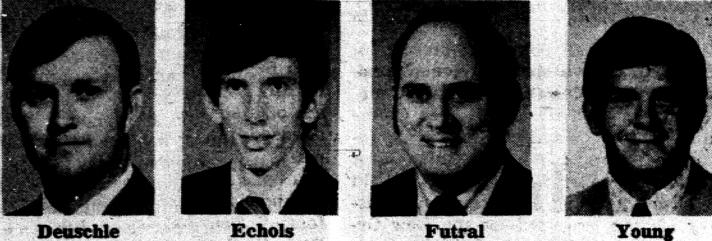
Many main-line Catholics urge con-

tinuation of exorcism if demands of

the *Roman Ritual* in making certain

of the demoniac nature of the affliction

are met.



To Graduate At Southwestern

(FORT WORTH, TEXAS) — Four students from Mississippi will receive degrees during spring commencement exercises to be held at Southwestern Seminary, May 10, 10 a.m. James H. Landes, executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, will be the commencement speaker.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Edwin J. Deuschle, Belden, Master of Divinity; Tommy G. Echols, Braxton, Master of Church Music; Larry L. Futral, Greenwood, Master of Church Music and Master of Religious Education; Kelly D. Young, Meridian, Master of Divinity.

**Official Notice**

In compliance with Convention requirement, notice is hereby given to all members of churches cooperating with the Mississippi Baptist Convention that suggestions for members of the Boards of Trustees of the four colleges owned by the Convention should be made in writing to the Committee on Nominations between now and Oct. 1st, 1974. The committee chairman is Dr. Fuller Saunders, First Baptist Church, Houston, MS. 38251.

Earl Kelly,  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

## NOMINATIONS FOR SBC ANNUAL SERMON PREACHER REQUESTED

LITTLE ROCK (BP) — Nominations for persons to preach the annual convention sermon at the 1975 Southern Baptist Convention session in Miami Beach, Fla., are being accepted by the SBC Committee on Order of Business, the committee's chairman said here.

Vaugh asked that suggestions be sent to the committee in care of the chairman by writing to him at the church address, 1000 Bishop Street, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.



## 2500 Attend Music Festival

An estimated 2500 persons from every section of the state were present from the State Young Musicians Festival held April 27 in the Mississippi Coliseum, sponsored by the Music Department, Dan C. Hall, director.

**Luanda, Angola** — Nearly 500 decisions were made for Christ recently in the 20 churches of the Angolan Baptist Convention during the first phase of a revival campaign. According to Southern Baptist missionary press representative Mrs. Harrison H. Pike, many of those making decisions

were young people. Three Portuguese pastors came from mainland Portugal to assist in these services.

want to encourage as many as possible to leave their cars at the hotels and take advantage of the bus service," said Heath.

Taxis also will be available at the Convention Center. We are assured, Heath added, that the Surtran Bus Service from the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport can adequately transport those flying to the convention.

**Bus Transportation**

(Continued From Page 1)

explained Heath. Except on Wednesday, he continued, when there is no intercession session, the buses will run from the Convention Center to the hotels at noon.

"Because of the parking situation in the Convention Center area in downtown Dallas during the day, we

want to encourage as many as possible to leave their cars at the hotels and take advantage of the bus service," said Heath.

Taxis also will be available at the Convention Center. We are assured, Heath added, that the Surtran Bus Service from the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport can adequately transport those flying to the convention.

**Greater Ministry Aided**

The recommendation states further that we work to develop greater sensitivity to both overt and covert discrimination against women. . . .

Mr. Holman said that individuals would be presented an opportunity to give any amount they desired but he felt that many will take advantage of the chance to give one or more of the "Living Memorials" for the facility.

Assembly funds already on hand when the campaign was launched were those received from insurance following Camille and on Dec. 31, 1970 the total was \$612,153, including

interest.

This fund has grown until currently it totals \$661,146, which includes both interest and allocations from convention funds. On Jan. 1, 1971, \$170,265 is reserved for Gulfshore

Assembly or its replacement, leaving

\$81,861 in the account to be added

to the campaign and other funds to re-

store Gulfshore.

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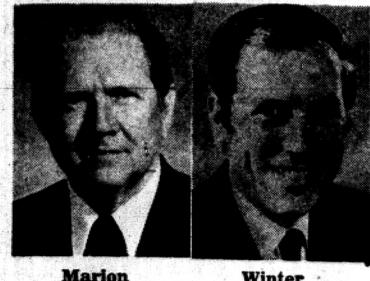
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# Clarke College Commencement Today



B. Marion, Jr., pastor of Clarksdale Church and member of the Clarke Board of Trustees.

Rev. L. B. Marion is a native of South Carolina.

Pastorates held since graduation from Southern Seminary include First, Johnston, South Carolina; Charleston Heights, Charleston, South Carolina; First, Tuscaloosa, Alabama and his present pastorate, First, Clarksdale, where he has served for more than twelve years.

The Clarksdale pastor has served his denomination in a number of capacities: President, Ministerial Association in Clarksdale; Chairman of Evangelism in Riverside Association; moderator of Riverside Association; trustee, Baptist Memorial Hospital; member, Southern Baptist Convention Brotherhood Commission; President, Mississippi Chapter, Southern Semi-

nary Alumni Association.

Graduation exercises are to be held at 3 p.m. today in the auditorium of First Church, Newton, Honorable William Winter, Lieutenant Governor, State of Mississippi, will deliver the address to graduating sophomore.

Lieutenant Governor William F. Winter was valedictorian of his class when he graduated from Grenada High School and was named Outstanding Graduate of Ole Miss Law School in 1949 when he was awarded both the BA and LLB degrees from the University of Mississippi.

In the area of civic activities, he is a former president of Mississippi Historical Society. Currently, he is serving as President, Mississippi Department of Archives and History Board of Trustees and as a member of Belhaven College Board of Trustees. He is an elder in the Presbyterian church.

Thursday, May 9, is 1974 Commencement Day at Clarke College. Sixty sophomores were presented this morning by Dean Victor R. Vaughn and received the AA degree, conferred by President W. L. Compere. The commencement service was held at ten o'clock today in the sanctuary of First Church, Newton. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Lucius

Thursday, May 9, 1974

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## The Convention President Speaks

There is more than one way we, as Christians, can be counted for what is right. One way is that we can not only speak out for good ourselves, but we can also encourage those who take a stand themselves. A case at point, in my opinion, is the showing of the very-controversial film, "The Exorcist." In some of our cities, the officials have seized the film and have sought to prevent the showing due to the obscenity. Naturally, the officials have taken a great deal of abuse from those who disagree with the action. But this is a time when we who believe in the right should speak out in the defense of such action and send words of praise.

Another way we can be counted on the side of righteousness is to take a definite stand against evil. This is not easy. It takes digging to get the facts and being careful about mistaking the truth. It also takes courage and a willingness to take abuse when the foes throw it at us. It takes walking close to God and being controlled by the Holy Spirit. It also takes being sensitive to that Spirit.

I believe the fruits of such efforts are rewarding. I also believe we have the blessings of God upon us and a clear conscience. Personally, I am not the kind of person who can sit and let sin be rampant. I cannot live with myself when I do. My prayer is that you may have a similar conscience. — David Grant.

In September, 1925, Colonel William ("Billy") Mitchell, outspoken advocate of a strong, independent air force, accused the War and Navy Departments of "incompetency, criminal negligence, and almost treasonable administration of the National Defense." He was court-martialed on Dec. 17, 1925.



BMC Graduation—Making final adjustments just prior to graduation exercises were Deborah Caten Sanders (standing) of Blue Mountain and Sandy Strickland of Baldwyn.

### Blue Mountain

## Centennial Class Graduates

The Blue Mountain College graduating class of 1974, the Centennial Class, heard Owen Cooper, the President of the Southern Baptist Convention and noted Mississippi industrialist, challenge them to make the most of the opportunities around them and to strive to make the world a better place in which to live through Christian service.

The remarks came as part of his

Commencement Address to the Class of '74 and highlighted graduation day activities at the school. Earlier in the day Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, delivered the Baccalaureate Sermon.

Mrs. Vashti O. Lewis of the Blue Mountain College Department of Education was named "Teacher of the Year" in a presentation prior to the awarding of diplomas.

Mrs. Lewis is from Batesville and taught for more than 20 years in the elementary school system there before joining the Blue Mountain staff as head of the Education Department and director of the student teaching program in 1965. She has directed the Elementary Teachers Workshop at the college during the past eight years. A graduate of MSCW and the University of Mississippi, she has announced her retirement at the end of the school year.

President, E. Harold Fisher, said, "It was a very exciting year for Blue Mountain College as we celebrated our 100th birthday and we are looking forward to an even more exciting period in the years that lie ahead."

Leroy Cleverdon,  
Retired Baptist Leader,  
Dies At Age 79

SUMMERTON, Ala. (BP)—Leroy G. Cleverdon, 79, a retired Southern Baptist educator and pastor, died here.

Cleverdon retired in 1961 after almost 20 years as pastor of First Baptist Church, Savannah, Ga. Before that he had served for 10 years as president of Judson College, a Baptist woman's institution in Marion, Ala.

He is also former head of the religious education department at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, former chairman of the trustees of Southern Baptist Hospital, New Orleans, and was a contributor to the original Southern Baptist Encyclopedia.

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## Village Spotlighted During Christian Home Week

Christian Home Week, the period of May 7 to May 12, 1974 inclusive, is recognized throughout Southern Baptist Convention as a week of emphasis upon the moral, spiritual and ethical traditions and values of the Christian home.

By Convention action, in Mississippi, Christian Home Week is reserved as the period of mission emphasis upon the work of The Baptist Children's Village and its child care ministry to neglected and dependent Mississippi children and the crisis-crippled private homes from which these children come to the Village for assistance.

In its Christian Home Week announcements, the Village administration has released facts about its child care operation, which, according to Village Superintendent, Paul N. Nunnery, should be of interest to Mississippi Baptist churches which lend their support to the Village. Mr. Nunnery has pointed out that the Village has been in continuous operation in Jackson, Mississippi, as a Convention agency for 77 years, and that the first children were actually admitted

to care on May 12, 1897, or exactly 77 years ago on Mother's Day, 1974.

In his comments emphasizing the importance of the traditional Mother's Day offering, Mr. Nunnery reported that 56 different Mississippi counties are currently represented among the boys and girls currently under care who are wards of The Baptist Children's Village, and that if current enrollment trends prevail throughout 1974, in excess of 315 different children will become the custodial responsibility of the Village at some time during the year. The report indicates that the Children's Village this year maintains 7 of its young people in various colleges and universities of the state, 2 of its young people in post-high school vocational training, and many dozens of boys and girls in the various grades of the public schools. Children and young people who reside on the Jackson campus.

An annual Religious Emphasis Week is observed each year during the summer months to emphasize the relationship of the Christian home to the church, the usefulness of regular medical, dental and surgical care which can be afforded in the Jackson area. In listing these services and ministries, Village administration has emphasized the omission of its costliest service of all, being the feeding, clothing and housing of hundreds of children and young people each year at cash outlays which are steadily spiraling.

"As Mississippi Baptists observe our 77th birthday on Mother's Day," Nunnery has stated, "it is prayerfully hoped that organized Baptist churches of Mississippi, whom we represent in a sensitive mission cause, and whose areas of influence we undertake to serve, will remember our Mississippi children and their problems, difficult demanding and costly though they be, in a particularly generous manner. In a very real sense, these are dependent children, and they are dependent upon you and I — Mississippi Baptists."

Plenty of people are willing to give God credit, but few are willing to give Him cash.

## Acteens Celebration Held At Blue Mountain

By Barbara Taylor

The Gal-ry at Blue Mountain College was the setting for the Acteens Celebration, April 19-20, as over two hundred Acteens from north Mississippi churches gathered to enjoy the special weekend for them at the college. Marilyn Hopkins, Acteens director for Mississippi WMU, was in charge of the weekend designed especially for Acteens.

A special treat was in store as The II Century, a folk-singing group from Blue Mountain, presented a mini-concert on Saturday afternoon.

As the girls and their leaders returned to their homes on Saturday, each person knew that truly something good had happened to her — for girls, as well as leaders, were returning with feelings of new friendships, of increased missions insights, of renewed inspiration and dedication to Acteens and to God.



Acteens from Louisville with Marilyn Hopkins, state Acteens director. From left to right are: Valeria Donald; Miss Hopkins; Mrs. Eddie Westbrook, leader; Cathy Coffey, Kneeling is Teresa Taylor.



Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Simon and their daughter Kimberly Kay — the "Littlest Acteen" to attend the Acteens Celebration — pictured with Mrs. Peggie B. Hopper, alumnae secretary, Blue Mountain College; and Mrs. Carla F. Benson, secretary to the president, Blue Mountain College.



Blue Mountain's president, Harold Fisher, is pictured with a group of Acteens in the College Book Store during the weekend.



Mrs. Harold Fisher, fourth from left on back row, served as hostess for a coffee given in honor of the Acteens and leaders who attended the Acteens Celebration. Mrs. Fisher is pictured with some of the participants on the patio of the Blue Mountain Student Center.



This group of Acteens from Riverside church, Clarksdale, traveled the farthest distance to attend the meeting. In the center of the picture, President Harold Fisher, greets Marilyn Hopkins, state Acteens director, and welcomes the entire group to Blue Mountain.



Presenting special music during the weekend was The II Century, a folk-singing group from Blue Mountain College. From left to right are Martha Thomas; Robin Smith; Susan Bell; Lori Dean; Cindy Boyd; and Ray Kirk, pictured in front.

# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## EDITORIAL

### God Give Us Christian Mothers

The Bible makes very clear the position of mothers in the lives of men. Throughout the Old Testament the place of mothers is magnified, for among the Hebrews motherhood was considered one of the greatest blessings of God. The New Testament also recognizes and honors the place of motherhood, and has much to say concerning it.

The influence of mothers is revealed in many ways in the Bible, but in no way is it pointed up more clearly than in some of the historical records in the Kings and Chronicles. There we often find after the name of a king a delineation of his character, and then the words, "and his mother's name was . . .". The intimation is left by the historian that it was the mother who helped shape his character. Whether this was the purpose of those writers we cannot be sure, but we do know that it is a fact. Often the mightiest force in the shaping of a man's character and destiny is the influence of his mother.

As we come to Mother's Day, two thoughts come to mind. First, we thank God for godly mothers of our own generation, and for what they meant in the shaping of our lives. I, as one person, can look back to what my own mother meant to me, and thank God for the life she lived before me, for the love she gave me, for the sacrifices she made for me, and for the things she instilled in me as a preparation for the life situations that I was to face. How I do thank God that she taught me to love the church, and the Bible, and that she pointed me to Christ. I also thank God for the mother of my children, as I have seen her loving them, praying for them, teaching them, guiding them, guarding them, and living a godly life before them. Further, I look at my daughter, and watch her as she seeks to guide the lives of her children. How beautiful is the character, the dedication, and the love, which is their heritage, in a mother who gives herself to them. The mothers I have known best make me thank God for Christian mothers, and what they have meant and are meaning to the world.

A second thought, however, presses upon me as this Mother's Day comes:

the world never has needed real Christian mothers more than at this very moment. Perhaps, the task has never been more difficult, for the world is different today, and the home is different, and far more forces influence the children than ever before in history. Mothers of previous generations have not had to contend with all the evil now loosed by television, radio, moving pictures, magazines, and books, etc. Surely no generation has faced the temptations the children and youth of today face, and never have they needed more the strength, and wisdom and guidance that only Christian homes and Christian mothers and fathers can give. Our cry today has to be, "God give us Christian mothers for today's children!"

What do those mothers need to be? They need to be true Christian mothers who:

—have had a personal experience of a new birth in Christ Jesus, which has made their own lives His.

—live that Christian life in their homes, day by day, hour by hour.

—love the Word of God, and know how to pray.

—do not send their children to church, but take them.

—make their children first in their lives, and do not allow worldly concern, and business or pleasure to come ahead of them.

—know how to communicate with their children, to understand them, to properly discipline them, to listen to them, and to keep their love and trust.

This is a big job, an overwhelming one, but it is the crying need of this hour.

Our prayer needs to be "God give us Christian mothers for today's generation."

### Don't Forget The Children

By action of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, Christian Home Week and Mother's Day are the one time of the year when the Baptist Children's Village may make a concerted appeal to the churches for the support of its work. While churches and individuals may make gifts at any time, this is the one time when the Village can make an organized effort to secure support.

As was stated in the article concerning the offering in the April 25 Baptist Record, about 70% of the support for the home comes through this special offering. That makes it imperative that churches all across the state share in the offering.

Mississippi Baptists have every reason to be proud of the Children's Village for there is no finer children's ministry in the entire Southern Baptist Convention. The very best care that can be provided is given each year to about 300 children. The facilities are the finest, and the administration and

staff are completely dedicated to their

task.

Let us not forget the children next Sunday.

Because of the rampant inflation which has existed for the past several years, and especially in recent months, the costs of the care of the children at the home has risen astronomically. This is why that it is absolutely necessary that churches and individuals making gifts do much more than they ever have done before. This 1974 offering should be the largest in the history of the Mississippi Baptist ministry to children.

Let every church in the state take action now that will make the offering next Sunday, or as soon thereafter as possible, be the largest it ever has made. Mississippi Baptists have accepted responsibility for providing care for children needing help. We have established the home and employed an administration and staff. Now, we must provide them with adequate funds to do the job we have assigned to them.

Let us not forget the children next Sunday.

### This Task Should Be Completed Quickly!

On page one of this issue of the Record we carry the news story of the progress of the campaign to raise funds for the rebuilding of the Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, the facility which was destroyed by Hurricane Camille five years ago.

The report reveals that splendid progress has been made in the campaign set by the convention to raise \$1,250,000 in a special rebuilding fund

before any construction begins, but that the goal has not yet been reached.

Almost three-fourths of the needed fund has been pledged by churches and individuals, and projections based upon pledges, and gifts from those who have not pledged, indicate that the amount is even nearer the goal.

The committee is anxious to complete the task, and will not feel that its work is done until the entire \$1,250,000 is pledged or is in view.

This is a task which every Mississip-

pi Baptist should support, and which we should complete as quickly as possible. None of us can question for a minute the need for a facility such as the assembly, or the great contribution it will make to our work.

If every church and every individual Baptist becomes concerned, and joins in support of the fund drive, the goal quickly will be reached, and the new Gulfshore will soon be a reality.

Let us all pray and work to complete this task now!

**BIBLE COMPARATIVES** by E. Kari Allen (Word Books, 125 pp., \$3.95) The underlying theme of the 13 chapters is that life demands choice. The author looks at 13 biblical comparisons and points to their consequences. Some of the choices confronting today's Christians are: Do we choose wisdom or wealth? Character or riches? The inquiring reader will find these subjects helpful and challenging studies of biblical themes.

**THE LIFE OF CHRIST** (Tyndale House) A pictorial essay from the Living Bible — the story of the life of Christ in full color photography with words from The Living Bible. This is a truly beautiful book, tastefully bound and gift boxed. It would make a significant addition to anyone's library. The fresh, youthful, living photography by Wim Aucups of Paris, France, combines with Kenneth Taylor's paraphrases of Scripture passages to provide a rare and inspiring adventure.

**FOR WOMEN ONLY** by Evelyn and J. Allen Petersen (Tyndale House, 125 pp., paper, \$1.95, cloth \$3.95) Fifty-four famous people combine their insights on womanhood in this helpful book on The Fine Art of Being a Woman. Seven chapters cover the woman and herself, her world, her health, her marriage, her children, her home, and her God.

**DEVOTIONALS FOR NURSES** by Rhonda Sander Lapp, R. M. (Baker, in gift box, \$3 pp.) An attractive, well-written book of devotional meditations, written for the special needs of the nurse. Topics include such as "God's X-Rays," "God's Stethoscope," "Night Duty," "White Rainbow," "God's Heart Transplants," "There's Life in the Blood," and "God's Pharmacology."

**THE HOLY SPIRIT IN VIET NAM** by Orrell N. Hamilton (Creation, 62 pp., \$1.95) A missionary of the Christian Service Ministry Alliance tells that there is good news from Viet Nam as well as bad news. He says that God is still in Viet Nam even though Americans are gone. He tells many thrilling and exciting stories of Christian work and witness and the Holy Spirit's power in the land.

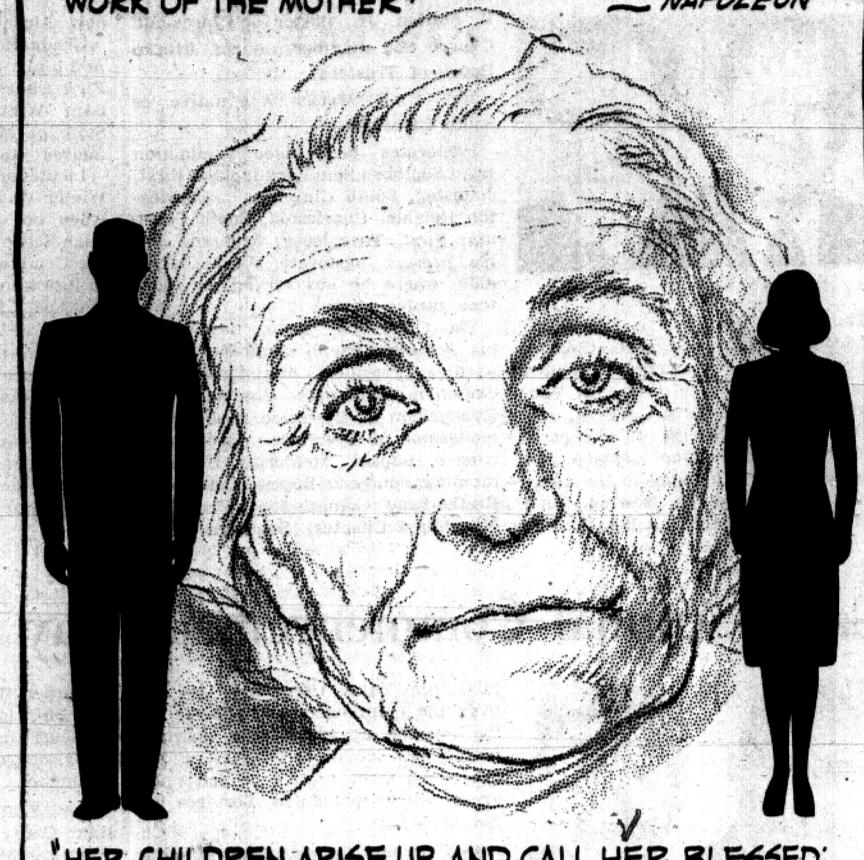
**THE BURRO** by Frank Brookshier (University of Oklahoma Press, 260 pp., \$8.95) This most unusual book is an eloquent and appealing account of the burro's, or donkey's, past and present. The New Mexican author says, "If the horse was the animal of conquest, it was his cousin, the lowly burro, who made it possible for civilization to spread to the far reaches of the earth. He brought wood to the fires, raised water from the wells, toiled in the fields, carried the great and the poor, followed the conquistadors to the New World, packed for the prospector and the miner." In this book, there is little about the burro that is left out! Mr. Brookshier writes about the burros of Bible times (the burro that talked back to Balaam, the burro that Mary rode to Bethlehem, the burro that Jesus rode into Jerusalem, and many others). He writes about the burros of different countries and of different eras. He writes about burros as pets and gives suggestions for caring for them. Lavish illustrations add to the value of a book that all animal lovers will enjoy.

**THE SUNDAY SCHOOL REACHING MULTITUDES** by Tom Malone (Sword of the Lord, 226 pp., \$4.50) The story of how some of the great independent churches of America reach multitudes in their Sunday schools. As one reads the book, he discovers that most of the methods presented here are those which are used in Southern Baptist churches, although some of the applications are somewhat different. Requirements of the teachers and officers are high and the whole program is designed to insure the success of reaching the Bible as the word of God and to win people to Jesus Christ, to church membership, and to dedicated Christian living. This is an interesting story of how modern Sunday school work can be effectively done.

**MAGICAL TALES: HIGHLIGHT OF THE 20TH CENTURY** by Levin Hamilton (Gevin Hamilton, Box 512, Park Park, Ill. 60621, paper, 125 pp., \$1.95; cloth, \$2.95) A new edition of a book which was first written more than 25 years ago, presents the premillennial view of the second coming of Christ and studies world conditions of this generation as they seem to point up.

"THE FUTURE DESTINY OF THE CHILD IS ALWAYS THE WORK OF THE MOTHER"

— NAPOLEON



"HER CHILDREN ARISE UP AND CALL HER BLESSED; HER HUSBAND ALSO, AND HE PRAISETH HER." PROV. 31:28

### Her Place Still Paramount

#### THE BAPTIST FORUM

##### Pastor Needed

##### In German Church

Dear Sir:

Last year I wrote to you seeking help in finding a pastor for the Zweibrücken Baptist Church. Because of the fine assistance given us by editors such as you, we now have a pastor serving faithfully on the field.

I am now in a similar position as our church helps a sister church. The Pirmasens Baptist Church is seeking a pastor and they have asked that I act as chairman of their pulpit committee. I am, once again, seeking ways to make known our needs to the mission minded pastors in the United States. If you can help us by sharing this need with your readers, we would appreciate such service.

Pirmasens Baptist Church serves a community of 60,000 American military men and dependents. It has the only evangelistic outreach in the city. We deserve to make contact with men who are interested in giving themselves in this type of mission endeavor.

We are especially interested in hearing from mature men, with seminary background, and pastor experience with military or transient people.

Inquiries should be addressed to me along with biographical data. All inquiries will be promptly answered.

Major Charles R. Edwards  
Community Commanders Office  
APO New York 09052



A Woman's World Reaches Far Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilde Fancher

Recently, in a conversation about Father's Day coming later than Mother's Day, one of our sons said, "Don't worry, Daddy. We'll let you have your day. You've worked hard for it."

I felt like saying, "So, what have I been doing these last nearly twenty-one years?"

This being a mother is really something, isn't it? It has always been surprising to me that the incidence of heart trouble is greater in fathers than in mothers. Just think of the beating a mother's heart may take on an average day as it bounces from pole to pole — from the thrilling ache of exhilaration to the choking pain of sadness half a dozen times or so as she vicariously goes through a second childhood, adolescence, young adulthood; whatever her children are going through, all at the same time.

Wouldn't it be nice if a mother could keep from hurting when her child hurts, weeping when her child weeps, worrying when her child worries, lashing out when her child lashes out, having all over again those knot-in-the-stomach experiences everybody must have in growing up? And finding they hurt worse than when she had them herself.

One of the best daddies I know told James and me a few months ago as we discussed our rapidly growing-up children, "I was a good daddy for my children when they were little, but I am a miserable daddy for them now that they are grown."

We knew what he meant because, seeing one or more of the boys going through a hard time, we had often said to each other, "It's too bad boys outgrow rocking and hugging when they're sad."

But they surely do.

Now, to the happy side. While parents must stand back and let a child learn to handle hurt, hostility, disappointment, anxiety, and the like, the child seems to be able to reach toward the parents to share the good. Because of this, Mother's Day is always nostalgic time for me — a time when I remember the happy, achieving, fulfilling, uplifting, enriching, exciting, and occasionally breath-taking experiences our boys have had. A time when I remember, as a mother, the things I've done right — that doesn't take too long — and ignore the errors, which takes a while longer.

Most nostalgic is the time when I think about my own Mother — as I think about my own Daddy on Father's Day — and feel grateful to her — as I do to Daddy.

### Judge Ye Not

I dreamed death came the other night and Heaven's gate swung open wide; an angel fair with kindly grace invited me inside. And there to my astonishment stood folks I'd known on earth; Some that I'd judged and lauded unfit — of "little worth." Indignant words rose to my lips but never were set free, For every face showed stunned surprise — NO ONE EXPECTED ME ! ! ! — The Easthaven Evangel, Kalispell, Montana.

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NASHVILLE people have more than the Orthodoxy Union there are controls the Baptists here.

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Other Warren County of Ence, Evansville, Indiana, Baptist Pa.; Jerry teen Washington, D.C.

MOSCOW Dr. and ville, Tennessee.

# SCRAPBOOK

## Thanks, Mom!

Your arms cradled,  
Your hands soothed hurts.  
You smiled at my childish mischief,  
Shared joys.  
Thanks, Mom,  
You were home a  
Home where children played  
And hearts were bound by family  
Love-ties.  
Thanks, Mom,  
Holding faith,  
Lighting an awareness  
Of Our Lord who gave salvation  
To me.  
Thanks, Mom,  
For guiding me.  
I have no jewels to crown you with,  
Just praise!

—Eunice Barnes

## The Lad's Robe

Although Hannah joyously surrendered her son Samuel to the Lord, she continued to love him, as only a mother can. "His mother used to make him a little robe, which she brought him every year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice." (1 Samuel 2:19, Moffatt)

## Position Of Honor

The honor which Solomon bestowed upon his mother Bath-sheba is deserved by every good mother. She kneeled down to meet her and bowed himself unto her, and sat down on his throne, and caused a seat to be set for the king's mother, and she sat on his right hand." (1 Kings 2:10)



Japanese tots and their grandmother. (Photo by Mack Mobley)

## Lord, Behold Our Family...

Lord, behold our family here assembled. We thank Thee for this place in which we dwell; for the love that unites us, for the peace accorded us this day, for the hope with which we expect the morrow, for the health, the work, the food, and the bright sunlight that make our lives delightful. In the peace of the earth let us, as Christians, continue to grow and to live in quiet mind. Bless us, it is meet, in all our innocent endeavours. And if it may not, give us strength to encounter that which is to come, that we be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune and down to the gates of death, loyal and loving to one another. As the clay to the potter, as the lamb to the shepherd, as the children to their sire, we beseech Thee of this help and mercy for Christ's sake.

—Robert Louis Stevenson

## Thro' The Eyes Of A Child

Mama was so pretty—her hair hung down so long—she would sometimes join our games and laugh a lot; we had a lot of fun—she cured our ills, she dried our eyes, and she even spanked us sometimes, but she taught us love and she loved us so, her daughters and her sons. She would sit down and skin our knees—or tear our clothes—she was always there to wipe the tears from our eyes—she would say our troubles were the most important things—she must fix them right away, but as she knelt, the smallest shoe to tie—I wondered what I was doing. But mama never faltered in her work was never through—she made the beds—she swept the floor—she fed and kept us clean—this was what she liked to do.

One day when she didn't know what I was need, I saw her stop and gaze far out to where the trees topped out. She was only just a moment, but as the sun went again slowly in her world—I wondered why she sighed!

Eight sons and daughters mama raised, and they grew up—sometimes good, sometimes bad, as children do—and mama, through good or bad, bless her heart, was always there to see us thro'.

One day when I was sitting there in her old kitchen chair with her apron to her eyes—she said, 'Get along with you child, go out and play!' I wondered why she cried!

One day mama became ill and quickly wasted away—the flowers were so pretty—her chair at the table was empty—she's just not have any more—and papa is gone.

"Oh, they tell me she is up in heaven now. That up there with our good Lord she does abide, but oh! it is so lonely here and I miss her so—I wonder why she died."

—Zelma Smith

## Mother's Love

Her love is like an island  
In the ocean vast and wide  
A peaceful, quiet shelter  
From the wind, the rain, the tide.

'Tis bound on the north by Hope,  
On the east by Patience, on the west  
By the love of God, and on the south  
And on the East by Rest.

Above it like a beacon light  
Shines Faith, and Truth, and Prayer;  
And through the changing scenes of life  
I find a haven there.

In "The Challenge," FBC, Magee

## All The World

There is an enduring tenderness in the love of a mother to a son that transcends all other affections of the heart! It is neither to be chilled by self-sacrifice, nor damped by disappointment, nor weakened by worthlessness, nor stifled by ingratitude. She will surrender every pleasure to his enjoyment; she will glory in his fame, and even in his prosperity. She will overtake him in his will to be the deserter to her from misfortune; and if disgrace settle upon his name she will still love and cherish him in spite of his disgrace; and if all the world besides cast him off, she will be all the world to him.

—Washington Irving

## Before It Is Too Late!

If you have a gray haired mother  
In the old home far away  
Sit down and write the letter  
You put off day by day.  
Don't wait until her tired steps  
Lead her to the early gate,  
But show her that you think of her  
Before it is too late.

In "The Herald," Calvary, Meridian

## Change Of Heart

I had from the beginning  
Desired it—but always  
When I finally acquired  
What I yearned for so long  
I found  
Either it or I had changed,  
For I no longer held  
The meaning  
That I had applied to it  
When it all began.

—Mark Leggett

## A Mother's Vigil

When the Gibeonites, having hanged the two sons of Riphah, refused to permit a proper burial, but rather required that the bodies should remain exposed to birds and beasts, the mother began a summer-long vigil near the remains of those she loved.

(II Samuel 21:10-14)

eager, frightened, idealistic young people who are wanting wisdom and direction for life. Most of them are not too concerned about making a living, but are deeply concerned about making a life. What if the faithful underpaid teachers and professors were featured across the land? prints examples of those who have made America great? What if the camera could reveal the throngs of worshippers of every race, creed and color who fill houses of worship each Sunday across our land?

What is the answer of the newsmen? "Oh Sir," he would say, "these are not news worthy—These are too ordinary, too 'everyday' familiar," and that's the answer. When you see the news portrayed and read it in your papers remember this—what you see is the unusual—this is where the cameras focus.

So—rather than sit back in despair and frustration saying that all the world is in turmoil and ruins—or before you condemn the total, like the cynical George Bernard Shaw who claimed that earth was an interplanetary lunatic asylum—stop and think—the newsmen are wanting and looking for the abnormal and the exception to the rule.

That is why so many of us who are just plain everyday folks, trying to find out how and where we fit into this world that God has given us, are rarely, if ever, the subject of any television specials.

Take heart though, for we are not unnoticed! He whose eye is on the sparrow is watching us all—and He is the only one who really matters after all!

—Russell M. McIntire

## Thanks To You, Mother, On Your Day

Dear Mother,

You know how much I'd love to get home to hug you and be near you on your day, but I can't. Thus, please accept my thank you.

There are so many thank yous and it would be impossible to mention all but I want to name a few.

Thank you so much, Mother, for understanding during my childhood, and adolescent days. They were difficult for you, but you had patience to endure them.

Thanks for spanking and punishing me when I needed it and especially not waiting for Father to come home and do it. It's wonderful to have parents who agreed in disciplining their children.

Thank you for the material things you gave to us. You sacrificed clothes and articles which you really needed in order for us to have a new costume to wear for a school program. You labored over the sewing machine many, many hours for us to have clothing you never had as a child.

Thank you for patience and more patience with us. You allowed us to try ourselves to make a garment on the sewing machine and you only guided us and never became aggravated enough to take it from us and finish it for us. Thank you for making me take out the hem in my skirt and do it over. I remember that I put my skirt hem in with a double thread and you made me redo it with a single thread! Ha!

Thanks to you, loving Mother, for letting us experiment and learn for ourselves in the kitchen. You left us alone and only answered questions when we asked them. I remember you insisted that we clean up our own mess and leave the kitchen in good order.

Thanks for making us share the work together in the house as well as working in the garden and fields. We had many glorious times together as a family crawling between the rows of lima beans making up funny songs and pulling tricks on each other. We had picnics from heaven together when we packed our lunch and went to Daddy Patton's and helped him set out tobacco on the hill or hoe in the garden there. Food never tasted so good!

Thanks for being firm and meaning no when you said it. You spanked us when we needed it, but it was with a loving hand. Thanks for daring to be different from some parents. Your decision was always for our good.

Thanks for teaching us about God. Your consistency proved to us that living for God was the only way. My childhood devotional life has extended over into my own family. Thanks for letting me see a happy Christian marriage—home where Christ was the head. When the time came for my own marriage and a home of my own, I knew that Marlan and I had to choose Jesus Christ as the head, just as you and Father had done. This choice has reaped many, many rich blessings for us already. After trying to follow God's leadership as best as I knew how in making many decisions since away from home, I have often wondered if you would have made the decision that way, too.

Thanks for showing us that living for Christ is the only way—that church came before all other phases of life. We missed many school plays or ball games because we went to church, but we were blessed much more because of it.

And, Mother, I pray that I will always be a godly mother for Marilynn Renee and our newborn son, Scott Arthur. That is the kind of mother you were to all of us children.

Thank you with my whole heart.

I love you dearly,

Carolyn Fern

NOTE: The above letter was submitted to the Baptist Record by Mrs. C. D. (Elizabeth) McCool of Owensboro, Kentucky. The letter was written by Mrs. Marlan Seward of 343 Cummings Street, Jackson, who is wife of the minister of education of Alta Woods Baptist Church, and sister of Mrs. McCool.

Mrs. McCool explains, "My sister wrote this letter to our mother years ago and when my parents passed away, we found it in their business things. She does not know that I am sending it to you but I feel that she would not care if you use it.

"Our father was Arthur Holland, a Baptist minister for fifty years here in Kentucky. We were poor, we lived on a farm, our father pastored small town and country churches, always bringing those 'once-a-month preaching' churches finally to 'full-time preaching.' There were 11 children in all—six girls, five boys. The letter tells much more."

Mrs. Seward mentions two children of her own in the letter. She is now the mother of three.

## The Other Side Of The Street

**Our eyes and ears are filled with the continuous unrest and violence taking place across our land. That there is such unrest we are well aware, but that it reaches such proportions in our minds is the result of the television carmen bringing it into our living rooms day by day. If a visitor from outer space hovered near enough to pick up our TV coverage of the news, he would be a fool to try to land for a visit. On a more realistic level, the people across the world are appalled at what they see—they truly believe that this is what America, the land of the free, has become.**

Wouldn't it be tremendous if the national networks utilized all of their vast capacities to project the other side of the street? What if the same coverage was given to the story of white and negro friends of a burned out family, quietly going in and building a new home for the needy family? What if national coverage could center on that faithful Sunday School teacher who has taught little children for thirty plus years, with no thought of not continuing as long as health permits?

What if the camera focused on the splendid college young men and women who are attending schools across the land this year? Few of them are off-beats or hippies or yippies as the case may be—most of them are

## Russian Religious Freedom 'More Than Czars Allowed'

all week.

Magnuson then flew on to Moscow for the Sunday night service there, where the same "answer-to-prayer" greeting was given him, a spokesman for the American group recalled.

Sullivan recounted the trip to Russia and gave some observations of Baptist life there.

"The Russians recognize that their religious freedom will not parallel ours in North America, but they do have more religious freedom than under the Czars," Sullivan said.

The Sullivans had to leave the tour early, due to a death in their family, and Magnuson suffered a ruptured appendix on a train en route to Kiev. Surgery was performed in Kiev, and he remained eight days in a hospital. He attended church in Kiev on Easter Sunday morning and was greeted as an answer to prayer because the people there had been praying for them

taken at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) in Einsiedeln, Switzerland in summer, 1973. The BWA coordinated the preparations.

Individual invitations were formally extended later, with clearance made through the Russian Embassy. The group was classified as a delegation and "given every courteous consideration that their (the Russian) government could provide," Sullivan noted.

A formal dinner welcomed the Americans their first evening in Moscow, and the following evening they attended a churchwide meeting with a special baptismal service of some 10 persons at the Moscow Baptist Church. Only two of the people baptized were men, Sullivan recalled. All were adults.

The "spirit of reverence and commitment ran exceedingly deep throughout the service," Sullivan said.

"Three of us preached for 20 minutes each and the rest of the service consumed an hour and a half. There were masses of people standing for two and one-half consecutive hours in rapt attention to participate in the services... The singing was spirited and the blessings were many."

Sullivan said there were no restrictions on the Americans' preaching in the Russian churches.

"We were told in advance that the government would not allow teaching since all schools were declared to be under government control. Churches have not been granted the right to operate Sunday Schools since they were abolished in 1924," he noted. "Still, they indicated one of their greatest needs is for Bibles."

"Even though it is against the law for religious workers to be evangelistic among persons under 18 years of age, even with children in their homes, they still find ways of creating

a spiritual environment that will give children religious impressions," Sullivan continued. Later, these pay "great dividends" after the children reach the legal age when they can make their own decisions, he said.

Some of the churches had great numbers of young people present, Sullivan noted. "They sang as enthusiastically as anyone. They participated in the presentation of special musical numbers... sang in the choirs."

The young people gave declamations during the main program, and participated in other ways which are allowable, and they were effective," he said.

The American group met also with theological students from the correspondence school which holds classes in the Moscow Baptist Church building. The school is engaged in special training of students for "pulpit work" (Continued On Page 6)



MOSCOW BAPTIST CHURCH leaders receive seven USA Baptists, including Dr. and Mrs. James L. Sullivan (third and fourth from the right) of Nashville, Tenn. (BP) Photo

A RUSSIAN BAPTIST CHURCH in the Ternopol Region of the Ukraine has visitors. Baptists in the USSR number 35,000, third largest Baptist membership after the USA (23 million) and India (734,000). (BP) Photo

## Names In The News

**Rev. Tommy Joe Mills** of Waynesboro will resign as pastor of Lake Stanley Baptist Church, De Funik Springs, effective May 19. He will move to Woodsfield, Ohio, to begin as pastor of the First Baptist Church, June 16.

Mills will graduate at Baptist

Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla., May 31, with the BBI Diploma in Theology. Mrs. Mills, who was Diane Pitts of Waynesboro, will receive the Wives' Certificate.

**Rev. Wayne Kimbrough** has been called by First, Pontotoc, as associate pastor and minister of youth. He will begin his work on June 15. A native of Jackson, Mr. Kimbrough is a graduate of Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary, where he recent

ly received the Master of Divinity Degree. On June 8, he will be married to Ann Beall, native of Wesson, also a graduate of Mississippi College, and who has a Master's degree in library science from Florida State University. Dr. W. Levon Moore is Pontotoc pastor.

**Rev. David C. Edenfield** has been chosen as the Outstanding Young Man of Clara for 1973 by the Clara Jaycees. He is pastor of the First Baptist Church of Clara.

**John W. Rushing** of Pearl, was licensed to the gospel ministry on April 28 by the McLaurin Heights Church of Pearl. Mr. Rushing, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rushing of Tylertown, is a graduate of University of Southern Mississippi. His wife is the former

Margaret Robinson of McComb and they have three sons. Mr. Rushing plans to begin seminary training this summer at New Orleans Seminary.

**Michael Howard**, who was named Outstanding Young Educator of the Year in Laurel, was chosen the Outstanding Young Educator in Mississippi. He is choral director at R. H. Watkins High School and organist for the McLaurin Church.

**Dr. James L. Travis**, Professor of Bible at the college, and sponsor; Rev. Clyde Little, guest speaker, pastor of First Church, Forest, and a member of the Blue Mountain College Board of Trustees; Dr. E. Harold Fisher, president of the college; and Rev. Tommy Vinson, a BMC alumnus, newly elected president of the Ministerial Alumni Association, and pastor of the Brewer Church.

**Blue Mountain College** ministerial alumni and their wives recently met. Meeting personalities included, left to right: Dr. James L. Travis, Professor of Bible at the college, and sponsor; Rev. Clyde Little, guest speaker, pastor of First Church, Forest, and a member of the Blue Mountain College Board of Trustees; Dr. E. Harold Fisher, president of the college; and Rev. Tommy Vinson, a BMC alumnus, newly elected president of the Ministerial Alumni Association, and pastor of the Brewer Church.

**Southern Baptist Assembly and Camp Managers Conference**, 1974 Officers — Hubert Smothers (Tennessee), out-going president and presenting the gavel of Southern Baptist Assembly and Camp Managers Conference to W. A. Vermillion (Texas), newly elected president. Looking on are Arlis Hinson (Kentucky) on the left, secretary/treasurer, and John Rankin (Texas) on the right. Smothers is president of Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour, Tennessee. Vermillion is manager of Alto Frio Baptist Encampment, Leakey, Texas. Hinson is serving as manager of Cedar Grove Baptist Assembly, Bagdad, Kentucky. Rankin recently retired from the ministry after 30 years of service. Not pictured is Larry Haslam, vice-president, who is manager of Goliada Baptist Conference Center. Hinson, a former president of the organization, is serving his third term as secretary-treasurer. He is a native of Crystal Springs, and a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary.

**Mr. and Mrs. Jere A. Wilson**, missionaries to Brazil, have completed orientation and may be addressed at 2256 Columbia Dr., Decatur, Ga. 30032 until July when they are expected to leave for the field. He was born in Atlanta and lived in New Orleans, La. His wife, the former Joyce Ann Braswell, was born in Aurora, Ill., and lived in Chicago, Ackerman and Greenville, Miss.

**Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Batson**, missionaries to Brazil, have completed orientation and may be addressed at Rt. 2, Box 36, Wiggins, Miss. 39777 until July, when they will depart for the field.

Both from Mississippi, he is a native of Wiggins; she is the former Ethel Thatcher from Fruitland Park. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1973, he was minister of music and youth at First Church, Poplarville.

**Randal Lindsay** was licensed April 28 to the ministry by First Church, Kosciusko. Rev. Harold Kitchings, pastor. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lindsay, he is a senior at Mississippi College and plans to enter Southwestern Seminary in the fall.

**Barney Eugene Austin** (right) was licensed to preach the gospel by Immanuel Church, Columbus, on April 14. Pastor Jerry File (left) presented the license.

Having been bus driver at Immanuel for the past six months, Mr. Austin has surrendered to fulltime work in the field of bus evangelism. He plans to enter Beth Haven Bus Directors School in September of this year, under the direction of Gardner Gentry, in Louisville, Kentucky. This is the only school of Bus Directors in the United States. A diploma is granted after completion of 12 months in related subjects of children's worship, bus ministries, evangelism, Bible and how to be an effective and helpful second man in church organization. Mr. Austin is married to the former Patricia Fernstrom of New Albany, and they have three children. For the last 14 years, he has worked in the trucking industry with the last eight years in the field of management and supervision. Mr. Austin states that he is available to any and all who desire to establish or revive a Bus Ministry. He can be contacted by calling the church office at 328-1668 or at home 327-5892.

**William Carey College** has announced its streamlined 'FIVE BY FIVE SUMMER PROGRAM'. According to Academic Vice-President, Dr. Jim Ernest, an individual will be able to come for a 5-week period and earn up to 7 semester hours of college credit or for a 10 week period (two terms) and earn up to 14 semester hours of credit.

Dates for the two five-week terms are: June 3-July 5 and July 8-August 9. Full information concerning courses will be sent upon request.

**Russian Religion** - - -

(Continued from Page 5)

and church leadership in Russia."

Sullivan said the Americans' journey took them to only three of the 1,050 churches in the Ukraine.

"We preached at each of the locations. Our wives brought greetings. We found the same warmth and welcome, cordiality and openness, attentiveness, hospitality and thanksgiving everywhere," he said.

The visit to Moscow included meeting with the Baptist leadership of Russia to discuss similarities in Baptist work in North America and the Soviet Union.

And a special meeting was held during a banquet with the religious leadership of the nation, including the representative from the government's Department of Cults, the head of the Orthodox Church of Russia, leaders of other faiths operating in the country, and the entire Baptist leadership.

Sullivan said the interchange of ideas and concepts was "full" and "free."

Another formal reception was held in the Liberian embassy, through the "courtesy" of President William Tolbert of Liberia and former president of the Baptist World Alliance.

The event was attended by religious leadership and by ambassadors and their wives from the major countries of the Protestant world.

Sullivan noted some controls on the Russian churches by their government.

"Churches are assigned locations by the government. Generally, they're put in areas that we would consider isolated spots, difficult from the standpoint of access and transportation.

"The churches are on back streets and difficult alleys, far removed from the main arteries of transportation. Worshipers walk a great distance to go there, yet the churches are neat and clean... they have beautiful curtains with handwork most beautifully done."

"The building show that the people love everything about the church and are interested in what it does and what it stands for."

"The people received us with open arms and open hearts. They embraced us in love, kissed our cheeks with affection, patted their hearts as we passed by even though they could not say one English word. They pointed to heaven with expressions of hope written all over their faces."

**Dr. Kelly Visits The Seminaries**

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**Dr. Kelly Visits The**

# The Gospel Confronts Culture Of Paganism

By Clifton J. Allen

Acts 18 to 19

Our lesson concentrates on the work of the apostle Paul in Corinth and Ephesus, two of the great cities of the Roman world. In these cities the gospel confronted the culture of paganism which affected the total spectrum of life. The apostles' labors were not without intense opposition and constant danger. Both cities were sanctuaries of licentious and unutterably vile worship. They were also filled with the atmosphere and practice of sorcery and idolatry. Violent hostility arose either from the hostile zeal of Judaism or from the greed for gain on the part of vested business interests. Paul, however, was sustained by the assurance of God's purpose and presence. He was also supported by missionary associates and by outstanding persons who became believers in Christ.

The Lesson Explained

PEERLESS MISSIONARY

The larger Bible lesson is Luke's account of the most important era in Paul's missionary career. He spent some four to five years in Corinth and Ephesus combined. Corinth was a wealthy and marked by a false veneer of pride. It was licentious and saturated with the grossest practices of immorality. In spite of fear and anxiety at the beginning of his ministry in Corinth, Paul was greatly encouraged by a vision of the Lord. He prolonged his ministry there for eighteen months until a vicious attack made on him by the Jews led to a hearing before the council and subsequently to his departure. Following a brief visit to Jerusalem and Antioch, Paul went to Ephesus, the capital of the Roman province of Asia, where he spent some three years of mighty ministry in that city and in an evangelistic campaign that touched the life of the entire province. During the years in Corinth and Ephesus Paul wrote some of the letters which are a part of the New Testament and which constitute our most significant source of guidance for church life and for understanding the doctrines of the Christian gospel.

## MAGIC AND SUPERSTITION (vv. 18-20)

Seemingly, Paul had already spent some two years in Ephesus (v. 10). God worked mightily through him, even to the point of extraordinary miracles being wrought by Paul for healing persons of disease and freeing others from the power of evil spirits. Seven sons of Sceva, whom we may think of as professional exorcists, undertook to pronounce the name of Jesus over a demon - possessed person and thus cast out the demon. But in this case the demon recognized their duplicity and insincerity, so that the man possessed of the demon leaped on the sons of Sceva and beat them up so that they fled naked and wounded. Many of the believers, doubtless converted not only out of unbelief but also out of magic and superstition, were now led to make a clean break with former practices involving magic. They brought their charms and books and burned them publicly as a declaration of their renewed commitment to Christ and to faith in him. Luke tells of the value as 50,000 pieces of silver. The incident here recorded impresses the

fact that the gospel was preached in a world in which the practice of magical arts was exploited by vast numbers of persons who appealed to superstition and fear on the part of the multitudes.

## VESTED INTERESTS (vv. 23-29)

The gospel was making severe inroads on idolatry. It led people in Ephesus to realize that there is just one true God, the Lord. He learned that images were useless, that Diana was a myth, and that the practices associated with the worship of Diana were sinful and immoral. Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen, who made silver shrines or idols of Diana, gathered together to consider the situation. The idol makers were not so much concerned for Diana as they were for their trade and its profits. The idol makers stirred up the people of the city into a mob which converged in the great city theater. Paul himself would have gone into the crowd but, for the intervention of some of his friends. The verses recounting the outcome of the riot indicate that the town clerk, the most important official in the city, finally succeeded in quieting the

mob and reminded the people of the absurdity of their outcry about Diana. The important truth is that the greatness of Diana was crumbling before the power of the true gospel. God's salvation in Christ was turning people from pagan superstition to Christian faith and from ungodliness to righteousness. The power of the gospel was making its attack on the vested interests of selfish men.

## Truth to Live By

A secular culture is a besetting temptation for Christians. Christians are constantly exposed to the world's concept of values, namely, a man's life consists in what he possesses or what he can use for enjoyment, pleasure, and vanity. Secular values make their appeal predominantly or self-indulgence or vanity or the desire for power or aspects of life limited to the earthly scene. We are warned not to love the world (1 John 2:15-16). Secular values crowd out affection for the values of the kingdom of God. The most besetting temptation confronting Christians is not the appeal of idolatry or philosophy or magic but the appeal of things material - money, luxurious com-

fort, the vanity of the fine clothes, lustful satisfactions of the flesh, extravagant eating, automobiles, and a round of entertainment for pleasure. The secular culture presses every possible appeal by television picture and by printed advertisement to capture Christians with love for the things of the world. But if one loves the world, the love for Christ will fade out of life.

There ought to be no truce with evil. — Paul's experience in Corinth and Ephesus and Paul's instruction to the churches in those cities should impress this truth on us. We can never rightly withdraw from the battle against the works of Satan. There ought never to be a compromise when the cause of righteousness is at stake. We cannot rightly fail to expose doctrinal and erroneous interpretations of Christian teaching. We can never rightly accept the standards of the world with respect to right and wrong. Christians are committed to the Way! This demands a repudiation of iniquity in personal conduct, a commitment to love in relationships with all other persons, and a faithful stewardship of life and possessions in the service of Christ. To embrace the Way demands a clear-cut break with evil and evildoers and a life of uprightness under the lordship of Christ.

## Registration Urged

## For Christian Fellowship

## For Formerly Marrieds

Those who plan to attend the Christian Fellowship for Formerly Marrieds are urged to send in their reservation and indicate whether they will attend the meeting at Sardis or Gulf Coast, according to Dr. J. Clark Hensley, Christian Action Commission, sponsor of the retreat.

Dr. Pat Clendinning, Atlanta, Georgia, who is the primary resource person, has announced as his subjects: "Living Single: An Approach to Adjustment", "Living Single: The Challenge in Parenthood", and "Living Single: A Look to the Future."

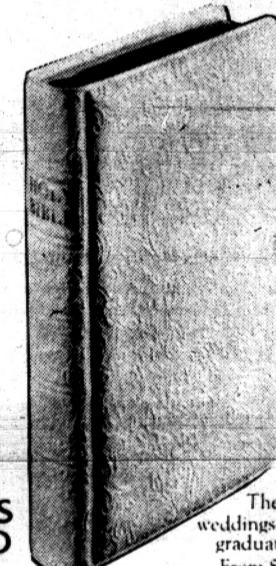
Julie Lide, a student at New Orleans Seminary, will lead the music at Gulf Park College, Long Beach, May 31 - June 1. Linda Napier, Harrisburg church, Tupelo, will lead the music at Sardis, Gulf Trails Lodge, June 7-8.

The retreat will begin at 6:30 p.m. Friday and conclude by 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. Formerly marrieds are described as either widowed or divorced persons.

The approximate cost is \$15.

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James 1:17



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## Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

## Christian Heritage Passed On From Generation To Generation

Deut. 6:4-9; Joshua 24:14-21;  
II Tim. 1:5, 3:14-15

By Bill Duncan

Recently, a picture on a counter of a local store caught my eye. It was made last Christmas when all the store owner's family were together. There were four generations—Grandpa, Granddaddy, father and son. The

grandpa loves to tell and write about our part of the south. I looked long at the picture and thought how that grandpa would enjoy telling that great-grandson all his stories.

For many hundreds of years each generation has passed on to the next some type of heritage. Many times we never really realize what we are giving or receiving.

One of the most interesting talks for Christian home week that I ever heard was Mrs. Margaret S. Hensley's presentation, "What I Learned from my Grandfather." It is one of the chapters in the book *Behaving At Home* by J. Clark and Margaret S. Hensley. The chapter concludes with this statement:

"Grandpa is still with me — reminding me to appreciate but not to be obsessed with the past, to have strength and encouragement for the present, and most important of all to have a never failing hope and existed eagerness for the future."

Our forefathers are still with us in the spirit of our Christian heritage that has been passed on to us. The things they admired, we admire. The convictions they stood upon, we stand upon. Some things have changed but most of them would please the pioneers of the past.

Today's world is a day where people are not intent upon the status quo. It is a day of reach with body, mind, and soul. We have inherited the discoveries, inventions and appreciations of the past. But will we surge ahead into the uncharted realms and give fresh combinations and deeper meanings? The psalmist said: "O God forsake me not until I have declared thy strength unto the next generation" (Psa. 71:18).

## THE PARENTS ARE TEACHERS

Deut. 6:4-9

The home is not a factory just to produce children. The male and female that come together for love and support may reproduce children

as God designed. Homes need children and children need homes. But the children need to be taught and trained for God's Word.

Moses recorded the great commandment which was two-fold. "Love the Lord thy God" and "teach these words diligently unto thy children."

The obligation that is there placed on the parents is inescapable. Its meaning is not vague and general but definite and detailed.

How can we present the Bible to our children so that they in turn can let the truth be a natural reaction?

(1) By example. There is the inescapable influence of example. No teaching, however strong by word of mouth can reach the force and power of an example. Our feelings shine through our attitudes and actions much stronger than words.

(2) By personal association. We may live busy lives but we must give "personal time" to "our" children. The generation gap is most evident in families where the parents and children do not do anything together.

We cannot depend on a teaching machine to instruct our children. A rich means of home instruction is the fellowship that is found in work and play. Make what time you have to be meaningful.

(3) Natural conversation. Children are always asking questions. These open many doors for invaluable opportunities for Bible study. Most children today will respond to instruction that is interesting.

(4) In love. The child's first step toward confidence in God comes from knowing that someone cares about him. Faith in God will deepen when the child experiences love and security.

## SET HIGH GOALS

Joshua 24:14-15

The time to put religion in the home is not when the children are in trouble with the law. The time to put religion in the home is in the hour of birth.

"It is to be a partnership of three, God first, then you and me."

The years ahead will be different. Most marriages have adjustments and problems. But when the purpose of the home is built around faith in God, the marriage grows sweeter. Marriage and parenthood are processes, not just events.

Joshua made a goal that is an example of a hero of faith. We do not have to conquer or lead a nation but we are responsible for our family. This decision helped him to be the kind of teacher God could use. "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord." He gave himself to the Lord, first. Too many people get the priorities wrong. After Joshua committed himself to the Lord, then he led his family to follow his decision. Man is free to respond to God but he will respond more readily with leadership. Our families have the same needs as did Joshua. They need a committed leader who will assume the responsibility of passing on to the children the right equipment for life.

A family will never achieve anything that is not planned. We cannot

22000, Fort Worth, Texas 76122.

The newly dedicated Children's Center will be the focal point of open house on campus. All other buildings will be open for inspection.

The seminary bookstore will schedule an autograph party which will include several dozen faculty members who have written books. The autograph party will be in the refreshment area of the student center.

For the younger children and the young at heart a stagecoach ride around the campus will be available in afternoon.

A celebration is scheduled for Truett Auditorium on Saturday, May 12, and at 3:15. Three distinguished alumni will be presented during the program. They are: S. H. Frazier, Marshall, Texas; Warren Hultgren, Men's Chorus will sing and President Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Fred Swank, Fort Worth, Texas. The Seminary Robert Naylor will speak.

For further details write the seminary.

The real genuine Texas barbecue will be served on the oval in front of the Memorial Building. Serving time will be open from 12 noon to 2 p.m. A huge blue and white striped tent will be erected to accommodate the crowds.

Transportation will be provided from the convention center in Dallas to the Fort Worth campus and back. Tickets to the barbecue will serve as bus tickets. Tickets can be purchased by writing to John Seelig, P. O. Box

leave life to chance. The home that is right for adults and children is the home that is right toward God. A Christian home is a home where Christ is known, loved and served.

## WOMEN WORTH REMEMBERING

II Tim. 1:5, 3:14-15

Paul was very much aware that he had not won Timothy to Christianity by himself. Lois and Eunice had taken seriously their responsibility to train Timothy in the word of God. The fruit of personal contagiousness is the true sign of the spiritual life. Some believe that Lois was among the pentecost converts. She then returned home to convert Eunice, her daughter. Home is the first mission field. So the godly women of Timothy's home prepared him for Paul to give the finishing touch.

Napoleon said: "My opinion is that the future good or bad conduct of a child depends entirely on its mother."

The influence of a mother can make the work, toil and prayers worthwhile. They abide with the children forever. A mother can invoke a spirit which conducts a mother from generation to generation. Most mothers think their influence for the future stops with the first generation. But that may be just the beginning of it.

The late F. Townley Lord was president of the Baptist World Alliance 1950-1955. In one of his essays from the book, *The Faith That Sings*, he reminisces about his parents, who

## Revival Dates

Oak Grove (Neshoba): May 10, 11; services at 7:30 p.m. Fri. and Rev. E. C. Tucker, pastor, preaching.

Eastwood Church, Indianola: May 19-26; Rev. Jack Hazlewood, Little Rock, Evangelist; Eddie and Alice Smith, Little Rock, music evangelists; services 7:30 p.m., Rev. D. C. McAtee, pastor.

## Carey To Offer

## Master Of Education

William Carey College has announced that it will begin this summer to offer a graduate program in education. The announcement was made jointly by Dr. Hugh L. Dickens, Vice-president for Development, and Dr. Joseph M. Ernest, academic vice-president. Carey first began graduate education four years ago with the master of music degree in church music and music education.

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## First, Greenville, Presents Fourth Television Special

Mississippi State University coach Bob Tyler and members of the youth choir and The Creations at First Church, Greenville, were featured April 30 and May 4 when the church staged its fourth half-hour television production, "Come Together."

"Our first special last year taught us pretty quickly that when it came to spreading the gospel, television is the best way to do it," said Rev. Barry Landrum, pastor.

"This is the fourth show the church has produced — and we've produced

them because they've been successful in reaching areas the church cannot enter."

"Come Together" was aired twice over WAGB-TV, the Greenwood-Greenville station. The first show was at 7 p.m., April 30. It was repeated at 1:30 p.m., May 5.

Pastor Landrum was host for the show. The music was under the direction of the church music director, Kenneth Forbus.

The church youth choir and The Creations moved out of the studio to sing a number of religious songs in familiar Greenville settings, including the city park and downtown area. Tyler talked with Landrum about his Christian experiences.

"As we have done for the other three specials, we turned to the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission and its TimeRite division for help in production," said Landrum. "Bob Thornton from the TimeRite office worked with us in production. This makes the fourth time he's come to Mississippi from Texas to help us put a show together."

### First, Natchez To Dedicate Organ

First Church, Natchez has scheduled a recital and dedication of the Thomas B. Buckles, Jr. Memorial Organ for Monday, May 20, 7:30 p.m., with guest artist Fredrick Swann.

Mr. Swann is organist of the Riverside Church, New York City, and Chairman of the Organ Department at the Manhattan School of Music.

Rev. Odean W. Puckett is pastor.

### Devotional

## Conversational Christianity

### The Lost Tongue

By Mel C. Craft, Pastor, Tyertown

It is amazing that the vocal and verbose world of communication is strangely silent in Christian expression at its most elemental level.

A world of tape recorders, cassettes of all types, 8-tracks, and stereo systems with their marvelous components speak eloquently of the mania to listen.

Yet, we continue to give pulpit excellence, exegetical and devotional voice to this world. The sermon, lecture, and study have their undisputed place in expressing the Christian faith and encouraging our response to God.

The one most beautiful and most effective means of spreading the Gospel is Conversational Christianity. It is like a crystal chandelier whose lights are never turned on. To turn on a world for Jesus is its most classic function. The world will never tune in until we are turned on.

When ironing boards become pulpits, desks become altars, luncheon dates become conversation moments about Christ, and cars become Gospel-buggies, people will listen to what the pulpit has to say.

Much interest exists in the unknown tongue. Not me. My own prayer is that each Christian will find his tongue and recapture the glory of conversational witness.

A lost tongue is mute indeed! Much more than sound is LOST. A voice from hell begged someone to testify to brothers. Speak man, speak!

Lost men are not necessarily the result of lost ears, but the result of a lost tongue.

"As you are going, teach all nations... teaching them everything I have commanded." (Matthew 28:19-20)

## Off The Record

A young couple were trying to paint their living room but were hampered by their three-year-old son, Roger, who wanted to help.

Finally the father backed the car from the garage, gave Roger a jar of paint and a brush and told the youngster to paint the inside of the garage.

Imagine the parents' feelings when a short time later they happened to glance out the window and saw that their young painter had not gone to the garage but was rapidly changing their black car to smeared white. Mrs. Louise Smith, Columbus, Miss.

Nice Try!  
Hello, is this the Fidelity Insurance Company?

Yes, Madam.  
Well, I want to arrange to have my husband's fidelity insured.

One Step at a Time  
"I hear you have a boy in college. Is he going to become a doctor, an engineer, or a lawyer?"

The slow, quizzical answer was: "That I do not know. Right now the big question is: Is he going to be a sophomore?"

Anybody who's in condition to jog doesn't need to.

Life begins at 40 only after you've had your coffee.



Picture left to right: Paul Brooks, pastor, and Tom McEwen, Sunday school director.

### Woodlawn Sets New Attendance Record In S.S.

Woodlawn Church, Route 11, Vicksburg, one of the largest rural churches in the state, established a new Sunday School attendance record April 28 with 589 present. The average attendance for the month of April was also an all-time record of 480.

The Sunday School enrollment at Woodlawn has increased by approximately 250 since October 1, 1973. As a result, the average attendance for the past two months has been 481, which is an increase of 185 over last year's average of 246. In the past year the church has received over 100 members by baptism and over 100 by confirmation.

The pastor, Rev. Paul Brooks, attributed the unusual growth to the blessings of God, dedicated Sunday School workers, and a growing bus ministry. "Any church can experience the blessings of God if they will follow the simple formula handed down

### Parkway (Desoto) Calls Pastor

Parkway Church, Hernando (DeSoto) has called as pastor Rev. Terry L. Jackson. He began service there April 1. Born in California, he has pastored Southern

Baptist churches in Mississippi and Arkansas and was pastor of Emmanuel Church, Forrest City, Arkansas before going to Parkway.

Educational background includes study at Kansas Wesleyan University, Mid-South Bible College, and Memphis Theological Seminary. Mr. Jackson holds the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Divinity degrees.

He and Mrs. Jackson, the former Jean Collins of Memphis, have two boys, William Scott, six, and Terry Lee, Jr., eleven. Mrs. Jackson's parents now live in Coldwater, Mississippi; Mr. Jackson's parents live in West Memphis, Arkansas.

### Duncan Member Sets Attendance Record

Duncan Church reports the outstanding attendance record of Mrs. E. L. Pope. Of the first period of 15 years and three months reported by Mrs. Pope, a 100% attendance was

maintained for eleven years and three months. Another 100% record was achieved for nine years and three months. Again, the past 14 years and three months she has held a perfect attendance record.

Mrs. Pope has taught Sunday school much of this time, first with Cradle Roll and then with other age groups, until she found her choice to be the Junior (now Children's) Department. She worked with children as long as her health permitted.

Mrs. Pope attended Sunday School during membership in Drew Church; First, Brookhaven; First, Kosciusko, and Duncan. She has been a member at Duncan since 1968, currently chorister for the Adult Sunday School Department there. For many years she worked in VBS at Duncan and has served in numerous mission work schools in Bolivia Association.

Rev. Billy J. Beckett is pastor at Duncan.

### Raymond Church Calls Pastor

Raymond Church announces that Rev. Sam B. Mason is their new pastor. Mr. Mason, a native Mississippian, graduated from Ruth High School, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary.

His pastorate includes Lucien Church, from 1953 to 1956, Colonial Heights Church, Jackson, from 1956 to 1972, interim pastor at Pocahontas from 1972 to 1973 and interim pastor at Raymond from 1973 to 1974.

He served as officer and director of Marketplace Ministries and manager of Maranatha Book Store during interim pastorate. His family consists of his wife, Esther (Gunnell) of Ruth; daughter, Mrs. Tony (Janice) Brock of Jackson and son, Sam III, student at Belhaven College.

### 1st, Southaven, Calls Rose As New Pastor

First Church, Southaven, announces the arrival on the field of their new pastor, Rev. J. B. Rose, who came from Parkview Church, El Dorado, Arkansas.

A pantry shower welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Rose (Almeda). Mr. Rose attended the University of Houston, Texas; Wesleyan College, and Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth.

Prior to his pastorate at Parkview, he was pastor of Sherwood Church, Memphis. During seminary, he was pastor at First Church, Finley, Oklahoma.

### Teachers Needed At BBI, Graceville

GRACEVILLE, Florida — Baptist Bible Institute expects to fill four new faculty positions for the fall semester, following action by the trustees in their March session, according to Dr. Walter D. Draughon, dean.

There will be one each in New and Old Testament, in religious education, and in music. The latter must teach piano.

Applications are already coming in, with more expected. All except the music professor must have earned doctorates from accredited schools. The latter must hold a master's degree in music.

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### Two Students Have A Lot In Common

Two students from Mississippi who are scheduled to receive master's degrees from New Orleans Seminary in May have a lot in common. Besides being from the same state and being candidates for similar degrees, Ron Mitchell (left) and Otis Hinton claim the same hometown—Corinth. Ron graduated from Kosseuth High School in 1961, followed a year later by Otis. Both married Corinth girls and still go to Corinth to visit their parents. Otis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Hinton and is married to the former Betty Alexander. Ron, who is married to the former Nelda Marie Meeks, is the son of Mrs. W. G. Mitchell. Ron has served as pastor of Bethlehem and later Kendrick Churches near his hometown, and was licensed and ordained in his home church, Shiloh. Otis served as interim pastor of Calvary Church in Corinth and as pastor of Tuscumbia Church nearby. He was licensed and ordained in Holly Church. Currently, Otis is pastor of Oyster Bay Church in Foley, Ala. He is a candidate for the master of divinity degree. Ron, a candidate for the master of religious education degree, is BSU director at Jones Junior College in Ellisville, Miss. Of course, both men like to relax with a cup of coffee in the seminary cafeteria.



### Associate BSU Director Plans June Wedding

The Baptist Student Union at Mississippi State University honored June Cooper, associate BSU director, and Charles Scoggins Thursday, April 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. in a reception at the B.S.U. Center. The occasion celebrated the forthcoming wedding of Miss Cooper and Mr. Scoggins June 22 in First Church, Starkville. Pictured left to right: Mrs. Howard Potts, secretary of Baptist Student Union, Miss Cooper, Mr. Scoggins, and Mrs. Jerry Merriman, wife of the B.S.U. director. Both Mrs. Potts and Mrs. Merriman served as co-hostesses for the event.



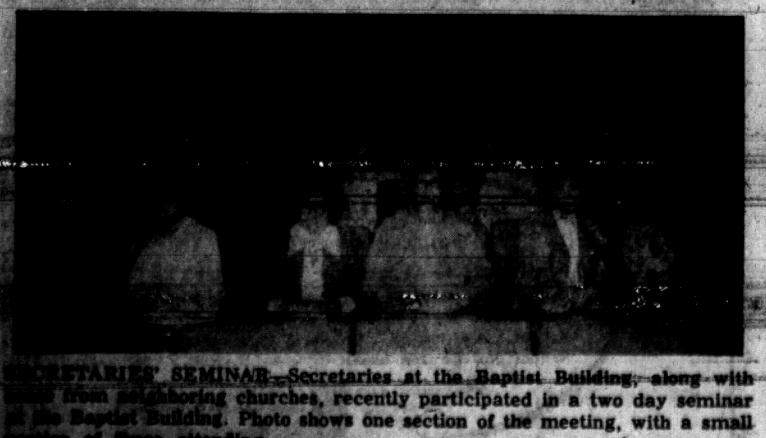
### First, Verona, Is Debt-Free

In July of 1970, Verona Church under the leadership of Rev. Jim Futral built a new education building and financed it with the First Citizen Bank of Tupelo for six years. The note was paid off in less than four years. In the picture above for the note burning were Rev. Jim Futral, former pastor; Rev. Ray Glover, pastor; and the active deacons of the church.



### BMC Elects BSU Executive Council

Recently elected to the Baptist Student Union's Executive Council for the '74-'75 school year at Blue Mountain were (from left) Lisa Nix of Murfreesboro, Tenn.; Rose Aldridge of Grenada; Cindy Boyd, President, of Memphis; Sherry Howell of Galena Park, Tex.; Emma Ainsworth of Jackson; Becky Todd of Memphis; Janice Waggoner of Beaumont; Nola Williams of Ridgeeland; Debbie Meyer of Ft. Worth, Tex.; and Joy Davis of Golden.



### Mississippi State Elects BSU Council

Elected BSU leadership for the Mississippi State 1974-75 session are: Front row left to right: Carolyn Coleman, secretary; Roger Jeafcoast, missions director; Cathy Pilgreen, social director; Tommy Middleton,青年 director; Susan Myers, publicity director; June West, student center director; June Cooper, associate director, Second row left to right: Jerry Merriman, director; Joe Armour, campus relations director; Sam Sumrall, enrollment director; Steve Craven, music director; David Jones, graduate assistant; Guyton Turner, church coordinator; Calvin Kelly, fine arts director; Steve Pilgrim, vice-president; Jimmy Ross, president; Rev. Jimmy Vance, pastor advisor. Not pictured: Dr. Clyde Singletary, faculty advisor.



Bob Thornton (left), a television producer for the Radio and Television Commission, met with Greenville ministers Barry Landrum (center), pastor of First Church, and Kenneth Forbus, minister of music, to plan the church's fourth television production, "Come Together." The show was seen in Greenville on April 30 and May 5. — Radio-TV Commission photo

### Kate Durham Morgan Asks:

## Had You Thought About This?

When you are being HONEST and KIND you may be DIRECTLY answering a prayer. Recently I bought a new car after much prayer for direction to the right person or persons to deal with. Being inexperienced and untrained in such a purchase, I recognized that dishonesty and trickery could dominate the sale.

At the conclusion of the sale, I made a telephone call to thank the first person who had given me advice. The reply was, "Why, I didn't do anything."

"Yes," I told him, "you were the FIRST answer to my prayer — to be led to the RIGHT person to deal with. You answered the SECOND step by phoning the salesman, telling him your friend was coming to buy from him because of your recommendation of his HONESTY."

The salesman became the THIRD answer to the prayer by dealing honestly.

Another example: A phone call to learn the name of a certain part used in plumbing yielded not only the name of the part, but also a visit to correct the trouble in about five minutes. This KINDNESS of a friend demonstrated that others care about each other in God's family.

A disabled veteran spends his time, when able, helping those who need him. He is knowledgeable about electricity, plumbing, and cabinet-making. His work for others is a JOY to him for he accepts this STRENGTH to do these things as a BLESSING from God. His work is a song - of - praise that he is NOT flat - of - his back in bed.

All of these would say, "Oh, it wasn't much." But it was MUCH, for each one was the human INSTRUMENT that God used to answer a prayer.

All of these mentioned above, and all others who deal HONESTLY and are KIND are answering someone's prayer. God uses these minds, these hands, these talents to do His children those things for which they have prayed.

It was God's directing that said to each of them — make the phone call, — deal honestly, — drive over there, you can fix it, — this you can do if you take your time, conserving your strength, you can accomplish the task. Most likely they were not aware that in these things God was leading.

God has NO hands but ours to use, and NO feet but ours to go to one in need.

What JOY we would have if we REALIZED that our HONESTY and KINDNESS were ANSWERING prayers. And doing God's work for HIM.

EDWARD G. THOMAS, JR.

Editor, The Ambassadors

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